

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 03469 250832Z
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 SSC-01 /019 W
-----047633 251328Z /43

R 250722Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6030
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 3469

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, TZ, NI
SUBJECT: TANZANIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO NIGERIA

1. TANGOV HAS ANNOUNCED APPOINTMENT OF MAJOR GENERAL MIRISHO SAM HAGAI SARA KIKYA AS HIGH COMMISSIONER TO NIGERIA (AND, WE ASSUME, CONCURRENTLY TO GHANA). POSITION HAS BEEN VACANT SINCE FOREIGN MINISTER BENJAMIN MKAPA ASSUMED PRESENT DUTIES IN FEBRUARY 1977. SARA KIKYA WAS CHIEF OF TANZANIA'S DEFENSE FORCES UNTIL JANUARY 1974, AFTER WHICH HE SERVED AS MINISTER OF NATIONAL CULTURE AND YOUTH.

2. BORN IN 1934 IN THE NORTHERN REGION OF ARUSHA, SARA KIKYA WAS CHOSEN IN 1958 AS ONE OF THE FIRST RECRUITS FOR THE NEW TANGANYIKA ARMY. AFTER THREE YEARS AT SANDHURST, HE WAS COMMISSIONED IN THE KING'S AFRICAN RIFLES. HE REMAINED LOYAL DURING THE 1964 ARMY MUTINY AND SHORTLY AFTERWARDS WAS NAMED COMMANDER OF THE TANZANIAN PEOPLES DEFENSE FORCES. HE WAS A CAPABLE, NON-POLITICAL MILITARY COMMANDER WHO SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN TOTALLY LOYAL TO NYERERE. HE PREFERRED WESTERN MILITARY ASSOCIATIONS TO THE CHINESE WHO GRADUALLY TOOK OVER AS TPDF'S MILITARY ADVISORS.

3. COMMENT: SARA KIKYA'S DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENT APPEARS TO HAVE NO DOMESTIC SIGNIFICANCE. HE DEPARTED FROM THE POWER ELITE WHEN
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HE LEFT THE ARMY IN 1974. TANGOV MAY SEE AN ADVANTAGE IN HAVING A MILITARY MAN IN LAGOS TO DEAL WITH NIGERIA'S MILITARY GOVERNMENT. IT MIGHT ALSO CONSIDER THAT SARA KIKYA'S BACKGROUND COULD MAKE HIM EFFECTIVE IN OBTAINING NIGERIAN MILITARY SUPPORT FOR THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.
SPAIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PINR, APER, TZ, NI, (SARAKIKYA, MIRISHO SAM HAGAI)
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